

Town of Rowe – FY2012
School Committee - Minutes
Wednesday, April 25, 2012 – 6:00pm
Rowe Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Loomis at 6:05pm.

Present: Chairman Bill Loomis, Lisa Danek-Burke and Lisa L. Miller

Also Present: Selectmen Noel Abbott and Paul McLatchy III, School Supt. Michael Buonoconti, School Business Manager Joanne Blier and Rowe School Principal Bill Knittle

School Window/Door Project: The School Committee and Board of Selectmen met jointly to discuss the school window/door replacement project—specifically to discuss whether to proceed with an application to the MSBA (MA School Building Authority) for their *Accelerated Repair Program* for this project. If the application is approved it would provide 36-37% state funding. The MSBA program mandates that their engineers and staff be used for the feasibility and schematic design phases of the project. It is unknown what this cost will be. Because of the small size of the project, it was presumed that these costs could be as little as \$15K. There is also the option to do the project locally (without MSBA assistance) at perhaps a lower cost. However, after lengthy discussion it was agreed that there was no upfront risk in applying for the MSBA assistance. If the costs offered by MSBA for the feasibility and schematic design phase are not acceptable, the town can reject entering into the program with MSBA.

The School Committee then voted unanimously (3/0) to have the sum of \$50,000 appropriated from the Capital Stabilization Fund at a Special Town Meeting to be expended under the direction of **The Rowe School Building Committee for The Feasibility Study and the Schematic Design for the Rowe Elementary School Window and Door Replacement at 86 Pond Road, Rowe MA,** for which feasibility study and schematic design the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study and schematic design in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. [The Selectboard also took the same vote, which passed unanimously (3/0).]

Selectboard Chairman Noel Abbott stated that he would like to read the full documents before signing them. They require his signature, as well as the School Committee chair's signature and the School Superintendent's signature. He will move quickly on this as the application is due May 11, 2012.

Energy Committee Chair Jack Packard, also in attendance, thanked Ms. Blier for her efforts in this matter.

Bill Loomis, Lisa Danek-Burke, Lisa L. Miller, Michael Buonoconti, Joanne Blier and Bill Knittle moved into the Selectmen's office to continue the School Committee Meeting while the Selectmen continued their meeting in the Meeting Room.

The School Committee unanimously (3/0) approved the MSBA "Initial Compliance Certification document". The School Chair and Superintendent signed the document and Bill Loomis was to ensure the Selectmen signed prior to May 11, 2012.

The School Committee unanimously (3/0) approved the MSBA "Proposed MSBA Project No. 201202530005 Schedule". The School Chair and Superintendent signed the document and Bill Loomis was to ensure the Selectmen signed prior to May 11, 2012.

The Superintendent presented his School Committee handout for the May 14, 2012 Annual Town meeting. Several updates were needed and he will present the final version at the May 14, 2012 School Committee meeting.

The School Committee unanimously (3/0) approved the recommendation of the Business Manger to reduce the FY13 Proposed School Budget by \$15,000 (a Selectmen Request) by reducing the Heat Line item by \$9,000 and increasing the use of School of Choice money by \$6,000. The justification of reducing the Heat Line item was that the 10,000 gallon oil tank had just been filled and less oil is needed as a result of the Performance Contract Project implementation.

Lane Consturction, one of the contractors submitting bids for the School Paving project, had an issue with the 5 year warranty phase in the Bid Specification. The committee gave the Business Manager the authority to resolve this issue.

The removal of the School Payphone was discussed. Bill Loomis was to make contact with Selectman Abbott and discuss the school's concerns.

During a discussion of the E-Rate Grant, the Business Manager clarified that the grant monies come directly to the town not the school district.

Adjournment: The School Committee voted unanimously (3/0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen B. Miller
Temporary Secretary

Approved:

William A. Loomis, Chairman

Lisa A. Danek-Burke

Date Approved

Lisa L. Miller

Attachments:

- Agenda
- MSBA *Accelerated Repair Program* application packet